



Terwilliger Fire Update

Southern Cascades Team
Incident Commander, Neil Miller
Incident Commander Trainee, Dirk Rogers

September 21, 2018 - 9:00 A.M.

Special Announcements: Southern Cascades Type 3 Team, Incident Commander Neil Miller with Incident Commander (Trainee), Dirk Rogers, assumed management of the Terwilliger Fire. The incident command post is located at the McKenzie Ranger District Fire Warehouse and fire camp at White Branch Youth Camp.

Terwilliger Hot Springs remains closed for public safety. Hazard trees around the hot springs will likely need to be felled in the coming months, as well as trail reconstruction. Additional pictures of the springs received yesterday show the restrooms were burned by the fire. Please respect the closure area and keep out of the springs until the area is deemed safe by Willamette National Forest officials.

Forest Service Road (FR) 19 remains closed to the public and firefighters due to unsafe conditions from gravity fall hazards including rocks, debris and fire weakened trees. The closure begins at the junction of FR 408 south to Box Canyon. **The public is asked to respect the road and area closures for the protection to themselves and firefighters.**

Acreage: 11,082

Cause: The fire is currently under active investigation.

Completion: 80%

Public Information Phone: (541) 822-7259 Available 9:00 am to 6:00 pm.

Information Websites: Inciweb – <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/6160> **Email:** terwilligerfireinfo@gmail.com

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/willamettewildfires/>

Resources: Total personnel assigned – 186: 3-type 2 IA hand crew, 1-heavy lift helicopter, 1-light lift helicopter, 4-engines, 1-dozer, 2-water tenders, and 9-tracked heavy equipment.

Current Fire Information: Smoke columns, all well within the interior of fire containment lines, became visible yesterday afternoon with the warmer temperatures. All perimeters are closely patrolled and monitored with emphasis on the west flank near the private lands. Infra-red, heat detecting flights have not been available. Other alternatives such as use of palm held infra-red cameras are being discussed. The contract scaling operation along Forest Service Road (FR 19) to reduce gravity hazards such as loose boulders and fire weakened trees is ongoing. This work will be required along the entire FR 19 and other travelways where fire has impacted the area to mitigate hazards and provide for safe travel. Front-end loaders are very busy cleaning-up the travelway surface of logs, rock, and debris. All material is being moved off-site to Strube Flat for utilization, as determined by local forest district management. A hazard tree falling contract along FR 500 has begun to reduce fire weakened trees along this road system. Logs will be decked for future processing. The northeast corner of the fire continues to creep slowly east into the

Three Sisters Wilderness parallel to the East Fork of the South Fork of the McKenzie River. A roadside brusher is working along FR 1993 reducing ladder fuels. Chipping operations are on-going. Helicopters are available for reconnaissance and water drops.

Weather: Partly cloudy skies will become mostly cloud with temperatures forecasted today for 66-72 degrees with minimum relative humidity of 33-38 %. Ridgetop winds will be light 4-7 mph from the southwest becoming west/southwest 6-9 mph with gusts to 15 mph in the afternoon.

This weekend, cooler temperatures are expected with a good chance of rain showers by late evening tonight into Saturday morning.

Restrictions: The Willamette National Forest has implemented a Forest-wide campfire ban, which includes all campgrounds and Wilderness areas. For specific information on Forest Order 06-18-01-18-18, see the Willamette National Forest website at <https://www.fs.usda.gov/alerts/willamette/alerts-notice>.

Closures: An Area Closure has been issued by the Willamette National Forest for the protection and safety of the public and firefighters. Closure order # 06-18-01-18-19 may be viewed in its entirety at <http://go.usa.gov/xRnz7> or on [Inciweb](http://inciweb). Please respect the closure areas for your and firefighter safety.

Evacuations: There are currently NO evacuation notices in place for this fire.

Temporary Flight Restrictions: Temporary flight restrictions have been lifted. Operating unauthorized drones in the fire area will shut down all operations so please refrain from use. **If you fly, we can't!**

Air Quality: For smoke monitoring information, see Oregon Department of Environmental Quality <https://oraqi.deq.state.or.us/home/map> or <https://oregonsmoke.blogspot.com/> or <http://www.lrapa.org>

Safety Consideration: People intending to hike into or near an old fire scars should remain alert and aware of their surroundings at all times. Know the forecasted weather before entering the area, assess the weather conditions while in the area and stay clear of burned trees. Don't linger or camp in an old fire area. As always, let someone know of your planned route, destination, and expected time of return

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